

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-14, and 17-20 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 9, 19, and 20 are independent. Claims 1, 9, 19, and 20 are hereby amended. Claims 3, 10, and 14 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their respective subject matter. No new matter has been added.

SPECIFICATION OBJECTION

In section 3 on page 4, the Office Action objects to the specification for allegedly failing to provide clear support for certain claims. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection for the reasons listed below.

As described in the responses to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification provides support for all pending claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶1

In sections 4-5 on pages 4-7, the Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 6, 8-14, and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons listed below.

Page 5 alleges that the specification does not support certain subject matter related to the NRC. In response, paragraph [0017] discloses that the NRC acts as the trusted entity that controls the handover of the virtual PEP to a separate PDP. As depicted in FIG. 2, a NRC in a first domain (A) is coupled to a first PDP within a first RPL and a first PEP. The NRC in the first domain (A) is also coupled to a NRC in a second domain (B) and the first PDP in the first domain (A) is coupled to the second PEP in the second domain (B).

Page 6 states that clear support is required for "at least one first PDP." In response, paragraph [0018] discloses that the RPL may include one or many PDPs. Therefore, there is at least one first PDP. In addition, FIG. 2 depicts a first PDP in a first domain (A) and a second PDP in a second domain (B).

Page 7 states that clear support is required for defining first and second PEPs being other than virtual PEPs. In response, Figure 3 depicts a main PEP and two virtual PEPs, the virtual PEPs corresponding to service x and service y. Thus, while the "first and second" PEPs, respectively corresponding to services x and y, are defined as virtual, the main PEP may not be virtual.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 8-14, and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Application No: 10/639,677
Attorney's Docket No: ALC 3414
REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2

In sections 6-8 on pages 7-10, the Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 6, 8-13, and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons listed below.

Page 7 states that it is unclear which element performs the function of establishing services that utilize policy enabled resources. In response, as disclosed in paragraph [0009], the overall apparatus establishes services that utilize policy enabled resources.

Page 8 states that it is unclear how decoupling of policy management from the management of policy-enabled resources is achieved. In response, Figure 2 depicts “decoupling of policy management and resource management.” In addition, paragraph [0017] discloses separation of the management of policies from the management of policy enabled resources.

Page 8 alleges that the identity of “said first PDP” is unclear. In response, as depicted in FIG. 2, said first PDP corresponds to the PDP in domain A.

Page 8 alleges that claim 3 contradicts claim 1. In response, Applicant hereby cancels claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer of its subject matter.

Page 9 alleges that claim 6 is indefinite because it does not define “a different domain.” In response, claim 6 now recites a second domain, corresponding to domain B.

Page 9 alleges that the “entities” of claim 8 are not defined. In response, claim 8 no longer recites entities.

Page 9 alleges that “another domain” in claim 9 is indefinite. In response, claim 9 refers to a second domain, corresponding to domain B.

Page 9 alleges that claim 10 contradicts claim 9. In response, Applicant hereby cancels claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer of its subject matter.

Page 9 alleges that “a main PEP” of claim 11 is ambiguous. In response, the main PEP corresponds to the main PEP depicted in Figure 3.

Page 10 alleges that “a different domain” of claims 13-14 is ambiguous. In response, claim 13 now recites a second domain. Applicant hereby cancels claim 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of its subject matter.

Page 10 alleges that “said particular service” in claims 17 and 18 lacks a proper antecedent. In response, “said” has been deleted.

Page 10 alleges that “services” in claims 19-20 is ambiguous. In response, “services” have been deleted.

Page 10 alleges that “the PDP” in claim 19 is ambiguous. In response, a proper antecedent has been added for the PDP.

Page 10 alleges that “a service” in claim 20 is ambiguous. In response, “a particular service” is now used throughout claim 20.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 8-14, and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101

In sections 9-10 on pages 10-12, the Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 6, 8-14, 17, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons listed below.

In particular, the Office Action alleges that “no physical parts of the apparatus have been claimed” and that only “if at least one of the claimed elements of the apparatus is a physical part of the machine can the apparatus be a machine within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 101. In response, the apparatus is a computer, a particular machine programmed in a new and non-obvious way to establish services that utilize policy-enabled resources in a communications network.

When a machine is programmed in a certain new and unobvious way, it is physically different from the machine without that program; its memory elements are differently arranged. The fact that these physical changes are invisible to the eye should not lead one to conclude that the machine has not been changed. See *In re Bernhart*, 417 F.2d 1395, 1400 (C.C.P.A. 1969).

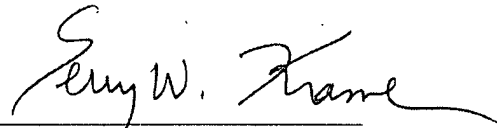
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 8-14, and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

CONCLUSION

While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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